

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

REPRESENTATIVE J.P. SREDZINSKI ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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> > Committee on Veterans' Affairs February 23, 2016

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 5358

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Flexer, Representative Hennessy; Vice Chairs Senator Gomes, Representative Nicastro; Ranking Members Senator Martin, Representative Yaccarino; and esteemed members of the Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of House Bill 5358, An Act Concerning The Leasing Of Military Facilities. The bill seeks to require a certificate of insurance or self-insurance prior to the approval of any lease or use of any military facility, permit the Adjutant General to allow the lease or use of any military facility at cost of operation, and provide that proceeds generated from leases of certain military facilities be deposited into the Governor's Guards horse account.

The Second Company Governor's Horse Guard is one of the most treasured historic organizations in the State of Connecticut and along with their sister Horse Guard in the Hartford region, serve the entire state in many ceremonial roles. Further, the Horse Guard hosts many community events and fundraisers on their grounds to support local charities or to bring in visitors to the State of Connecticut.

In recent years, funding has been a major issue for these organizations due to a struggling state economy and less resources to go around at the state level. As a result, alternate forms of sustaining their organizations have been necessary. One of the ideas has been to make available for private lease the military facilities located at the Horse Guard stables. Since many of these stables are left empty, it would make good sense to lease them out to private citizens at a cost which would offset the revenue needed by the Horse Guard.

I thank you for your consideration of this bill and support this measure completely.

Sincerely,

JP Sredzinski

State Representative – 112th District

Monroe • Newtown